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A spectacular French mid 19th century, circa 1855, Louis XVI st. tulipwood parquetry and ormolu mounted, Model 2 Concert Grand Piano, signed Pleyel, Serial Number 21731. The pianoforte is raised on three tapered concave top legs with beaded ormolu borders and casters, and a central lyre with two pedals and ormolu beaded trim. At the outer rim and lid is an exquisitely chased ormolu egg and dart border, and three wonderfully carved knobs that lock the lid in place. The large impressive lid folds, to be easily propped up and comes down over the keyboard and locks in place. The beautiful pierced music desk is adjustable and can also lay flat, so as not to hinder the view of the sound board. Above the keyboard is the inscription: "Medailles d'or 1827, 34, 39, 44 hors de concours 1849 - Ignace Pleyel & Compie, Paris"

Ignaz Pleyel (1757-1831) was active as a composer, music publisher and piano builder. He founded the firm of Pleyel et Cie in Paris in 1807.

Maintaining a close relationship with many famous musicians, including Frederic Chopin. A concert hall, Salles Pleyel, was opened in 1830, and in this hall Chopin gave his first (1830) and last (1848) Parisian concerts. Pleyel pianos were the choice of composers such as Debussy, Saint-Saëns, Ravel, de Falla and Stravinsky





